P20580.A02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

: Hisahiko TAKEUCHI

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Group Art Unit: 3714

Appln No.

plicant

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, § 1.97-1.98, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statement filed in the instant application on July 13, 2001, Applicant calls the following documents, which were cited in a Japanese Notice of Rejection dated October 15, 2002 for corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-391493, to the Examiner's attention:

Japanese Laid Open Patent Publication No. 2000-132706, published on May 12, 2000, together with English language counterpart European Patent Application No. EP 1 056 050 A1, published on November 29, 2000.

Applicant notes that the relevance of the above-mentioned Japanese document with respect to the various claims of the Japanese application, as well as the relevant passages of this document, is as discussed in the Japanese Notice of Rejection, a copy of which is attached hereto (together with an English language translation of the same).

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Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above materials and cite the

patent documents. Copies of the above-noted documents are attached and have been listed on a

PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the

appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to applicant

with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these

documents.

Applicant notes that an Office Action on the merits has not yet issued in the instant

application, and thus, no fee is necessary to ensure consideration of this statement. However, if an

Office Action has issued and is crossing in the mail with this statement, the Commissioner is hereby

authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0089 any fee necessary to ensure consideration of this

statement.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned

at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted, Hisahiko TAKEUCHI

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November 8, 2002

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